

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A data transmission/reception system comprising:

a first recording/reproduction apparatus; and

a second recording/reproduction apparatus,

wherein said first recording/reproduction apparatus and said second recording/reproduction apparatus execute recording and reproduction of input data and execute transmitting and receiving of data therebetween,

wherein said first recording/reproduction apparatus includes:

a first recording unit for recording a digital data group including digital data and recording a first database file which stores information regarding the digital data of the recorded digital data group, the information regarding digital data including copy origin information indicating a location from which each digital data of the recorded digital data group is copied and copy destination information indicating a location to which each digital data of the recorded digital data group is copied;

an extraction unit operable to extract, from the first database file, the information regarding the digital data which corresponds to digital data recorded in said first recording/reproduction apparatus but not recorded in said second recording/reproduction apparatus, the extraction being executed by comparing a second database file, sent by said second recording/reproduction apparatus, with the first database file;

a delete determination unit operable to determine, based upon the copy origin information and the copy destination information included in the first database file, whether or not to delete, from said first recording/reproduction apparatus, (i) the extracted information

regarding the digital data and (ii) the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data, ~~and; and~~

a first sending unit operable to send, to said second recording/reproduction apparatus, the extracted information regarding the digital data and the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data,

wherein said second recording/reproduction apparatus includes:

a second recording unit for recording a digital data group including digital data and recording a second database file which stores information regarding the digital data of the digital data group; and

a second sending unit operable to send the second database file to said first recording/reproduction apparatus, and

wherein, only when information indicates that said second recording/reproduction apparatus is not included in the copy origin information and the copy destination information of the digital data stored in the first recording unit, said first sending unit sends, to said second recording/reproduction apparatus, the extracted information regarding the digital data and the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Cancelled)

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) The data transmission/reception system according to Claim 1, wherein:

each information regarding the digital data stored in the first database file and stored in the second database file further includes information which indicates a priority level of the digital data; and

said delete determination unit is operable to determine;

not to delete, from said first recording unit, based on the priority level information which indicates the priority level of the digital data, whether or not to delete the extracted information regarding the digital data and the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data, said delete determination unit determining not to delete the extracted information and the digital data when information indicates that said second recording/reproduction apparatus is included in the copy origin information and the copy destination information of the digital data stored in the first recording unit and the priority level of the digital data is higher than a predetermined level; and

to delete, from said first recording unit, the extracted information regarding the digital data and the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data, said delete determination unit determining to delete the extracted information and the digital data when information indicates that said second recording/reproduction apparatus is included in the copy origin information and the copy destination information of the digital data stored in the first recording unit and the priority level of the digital data is lower than a predetermined level.

Claims 5-10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) The data transmission/reception system according to ~~Claim~~ 9 Claim 1, wherein:

each information regarding the digital data stored in the first database file and stored in the second database file further includes information which indicates a priority level of the digital data; and

said sending unit is operable to determine, based on the priority level information which indicates the priority level of the digital data, whether or not to send, to said second recording/reproduction apparatus, the extracted information regarding the digital data and the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The data transmission/reception system according to Claim 1, wherein one of said first and second recording/reproduction apparatuses is installed in a vehicle.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) A recording/reproduction apparatus which executes recording and reproduction of input data and executes transmitting and receiving of data with another apparatus, said recording/reproduction apparatus comprising:

a recording unit for recording a digital data group including digital data and recording a first database file which stores information regarding the digital data of the recorded digital data group, the information regarding digital data including copy origin information indicating a location from which each digital data of the recorded digital group is copied and copy

destination information indicating a location to which each digital data of the recorded digital group is copied;

an extraction unit operable to extract, from the first database file, the information regarding the digital data which corresponds to digital data recorded in said recording/reproduction apparatus but not recorded in the other apparatus, the extraction being executed by comparing a received second database file, including stored information regarding each digital data of a digital data group recorded in the other apparatus, with the first database file;~~and~~

a delete determination unit operable to determine, based upon the copy origin information and the copy destination information included in the first database file, whether or not to delete, from said recording/reproduction apparatus, (i) the extracted information regarding the digital data and (ii) the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data; and

a sending unit operable to send, to the other apparatus, the extracted information regarding the digital data and the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data,

wherein, only when information indicates that the other apparatus is not included in the copy origin information and the copy destination information of the digital data stored in the recording unit, said sending unit sends, to the other apparatus, the extracted information regarding the digital data and the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) A data transmission/reception method of using a first recording/reproduction apparatus for transmitting and receiving data to and from another recording/reproduction apparatus and for managing data recorded on the first recording/reproduction apparatus, said data transmission/reception method comprising:

extracting, from a first database file recorded on the first recording/reproduction apparatus, information regarding digital data which corresponds to digital data recorded in the first recording/reproduction apparatus but not recorded in the other recording/reproduction apparatus, said extracting being executed by comparing (i) a second database file received from the other recording/reproduction apparatus including information regarding digital data, the information regarding digital data including copy origin information indicating a location from which each digital data is copied and copy destination information indicating a destination to which each digital data is copied, with (ii) the first database file including the information regarding digital data of a digital data group recorded in the first recording/reproduction apparatus; ~~and~~

determining, based upon the copy origin information and the copy destination information, whether or not to delete, from the first recording/reproduction apparatus, (i) the extracted information regarding the digital data and (ii) the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data; and

determining to send, to the other apparatus, the extracted information regarding the digital data and the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data, the extracted information and the digital being determined to be sent only when information indicates that the other apparatus is not included in the copy origin information and the copy destination information of the digital data.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having a program stored thereon, the program for using a first recording/reproduction apparatus for transmitting and receiving data with another recording/reproduction apparatus and for managing data recorded on the first recording/reproduction apparatus, the program causing a computer to execute a method comprising:

extracting, from a first database file recorded on the first recording/reproduction apparatus, information regarding digital data which corresponds to digital data recorded in the first recording/reproduction apparatus but not recorded in the other recording/reproduction apparatus, said extracting being executed by comparing (i) a second database file received from the other recording/reproduction apparatus including information regarding digital data, the information regarding the digital data including copy origin information indicating a location from which each digital data is copied and copy destination information indicating a destination to which each digital data is copied, with (ii) the first database file including the information regarding digital data of a digital data group recorded in the first recording/reproduction apparatus; ~~and~~

determining, based upon the copy origin information and the copy destination information, whether or not to delete, from the first recording/reproduction apparatus, (i) the extracted information regarding the digital data and (ii) the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data; and

determining to send, to the other apparatus, the extracted information regarding the digital data and the digital data that corresponds to the extracted information regarding the digital data, the extracted information and the digital data being determined to be sent only when information indicates that the other apparatus is not included in the copy origin information and

the copy destination information of the digital data.

Claims 16-18 (Cancelled)